

## Film, TV/Media, Literature

The dramatic expansion of Council support of film, television, and literary projects—the dollar amount has increased from \$65,000 in 1969-70 to \$1.5 million in 1970-71—is making it possible to reach audiences in numbers undreamed of in previous years. Since, unlike other forms of artistic expression, film, TV programs, videotapes, and published writing have a continuing life of their own, the ultimate number of spectators and participants benefiting from State support in this record budget year is incalculable.

The widespread and still growing interest in filmmaking among young people continued to receive recognition from the Council in 1970-71 through grants to stabilize new film workshops and to continue programs at established filmmaking clubs. To expand audiences for films of all kinds, and to increase the number of locations where the full spectrum of the medium is displayed, the Council gave support to such diverse organizations as the Rochester International Film Festival, the Nassau Library System, and — in New York City — the Film Society of Lincoln Center and the Millennium Film Workshop. In all regions of the State, the Council sought to spread the impact of its film grants by working through existing regional organizations, a good example being the grant to the Film Forum of Syracuse which is enabling twelve high schools to offer filmmaking courses that none was able to initiate alone.

In 1970-71 the Council made its first direct grants to public television stations for cultural programming. Concurrently it made substantial efforts to insure that the tools contemporary television technology can offer for individual creative expression — specifically the portable systems which can be operated by a single person — will be liberated from the control of the existing TV establishment. A half dozen grants to video artists affiliated with major cultural institutions enabled them to record aspects of contemporary culture and to make portable video available as a medium through which people throughout the State could express their personal concerns and aspirations—to put them, as it were, behind the TV screen rather than in front of it.

A flourishing Council program in literature sprang into being this year. Funds for the already well established Poets and Writers Program were significantly increased to keep pace with its extraordinary success in encouraging appreciation of the work of contemporary writers. A major grant to the Coordinating Council of Literary Magazines provided sorely needed support for the many New York State "little" magazines that serve as an essential outlet for new or unknown literary talent, and enabled the Council to explore how such magazines might realize printing economies and achieve broader distribution.

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